



the RARR RAG

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NO. 3

Meet Your Friends at the RaRa Auction

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD
Vice-President, RARA

This month is the Annual RaRa Auction hosted by Ed Gable, K2MP and Dick Goslee, KG2I. These knowledgeable and witty auctioneers can sell even your most unlikely Amateur Radio items. If you have never attended a RaRa auction in the past or don't have anything to sell, come on out anyways...and bring your cash...because Ed and Dick can spin an irresistible and attractive description of even the most obscure Amateur Radio trinket...and entertain you in the process too.

The rules of the auction are simple. The Club keeps 10% of all sales as a commission, or you may choose to simply donate the full proceeds to the benefit of the treasury.

In recent years the auction has run late into the evening. This year in an effort to conserve time and attract "top dollar" for your auction sale items, we request that sellers bring Amateur Radio hardware only. Leave your household and computer items at home in a box labeled "RaRa Hamfest."

This is a "members only" auction. Paid up members are welcome and each member may bring one guest. Doors will open one hour early at 6:30 pm for sellers to display their treasures for sale and buyers to preview auctions items and ask questions of the sellers. The auction will start at 7:30 pm sharp. Come on out, and meet your friends at the Annual RaRa Auction.

RaRa Meeting

November 3, 2006

7:30 PM

Henrietta Fire Company #1

3129 East Henrietta Rd

Annual Auction

Doors open at 6:30 PM

73rd Rochester Hamfest - Bigger and Better, June 1-3, 2007

By Harold Smith, K2HC
General Chairman, Rochester Hamfest
& Peter Fournia, W2SKY
Flea Market Chairman, Rochester Hamfest

Its all new! The Rochester Hamfest site, the Monroe County Fairgrounds and headquarters hotel, the DoubleTree Hotel Rochester. Both the fairgrounds and hotel have undergone multi-million dollar renovations making the Rochester Hamfest facilities the newest in the nation.

Weather not a factor

Your shopping and selling at the 2007 Rochester Hamfest just got better! Rain of shine, hot or cold you will stay dry and comfortable without a sunburn by using the INDOOR FLEA MARKET. Yes we have added an INDOOR FLEA MARKET in 2007! But, there is much more!

Changes to our venue are massive. The main parking lot has been paved and stripped, a new camping area and East parking lot has been added, a new West parking lot is ready for paving, a Minett Hall extension is complete, two new entrances are complete and construction on the new Dome entrance has started. All will be ready in the spring. They will make for a very convenient hamfest. And that's just the outside!

Indoors we will be using the refurbished Minett Hall as a flea market. It has a bright clean look with upgraded lighting and a nice new paint job.

(73rd Hamfest continued on page 5)

SILENT KEYS

Glen P. King, Jr., N2GKQ

September 27, 2006

Richard J. Driscoll, Jr., WA2LAQ

October 8, 2006

George S. Alley, WB2YHP

October 13, 2006

the RARA RAG

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W2EOC, Lloyd Caves, N2PU

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RaRa Rag 2

The Prez Sez -

By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY
President, RARA

I am amazed at how many hams I have talked to recognize my QTH (Henrietta) as a suburb Rochester, and especially in the spring they ask about the Rochester Hamfest. In QSO's we can use this as a promotion for our area, our hamfest and RARA. "My QTH is Rochester as in the Rochester Hamfest.

An initiative I would like to see is more fun and spirit building here in RARA and in the local ham community. I propose that we try a program of: "Remember, Meet all your friends at RARA. Meet all your friends at the Rochester Hamfest." I think that local hams may feel that this is obvious but reinforcing this will be useful to hams beyond several counties away from us.

There are a lot of fun and interesting topics that fly around the Rochester area radio clubs and there is no harm in promoting them and helping the membership and local-ham-community feel good about those activities.

Another cooperative endeavor is more use of the identifier 'Ham' in our discussions. The legal name 'Amateur Radio Service'(ARS) is something that we all appreciate and understand; but, I think the general public does not. I propose that we use the word 'Ham' as a parallel identifier and right along side the use of ARS much more than we have in the recent past. Historic use of ARS increased after the CB craze, to differentiate hams from CBers. I think the amateur radio is a term that the general public interprets as pseudo-non-commercial broadcasting - no wonder people have the perception that ham radio has died -- especially if no one uses the term 'Ham' anymore!

While the RARA Rag is the Official written organ of RARA, we also have a web page that has a lot of association information. Many pages of detailed information about your club can be found at www.rochesterham.org regarding current events, history and other activities.

If you need news faster than on a monthly basis, many news items (about 50 per year according to administrator KA2GPJ) are sent out on the several special interest email reflectors that RARA sponsors. Sign up instructions are available at www.rochesterham.org/email_reflector_more.htm or contact George Masny 377-7853.

The latest hamfest information is at www.rochesterhamfest.org which is updated daily.

**December Rag Deadline
November 7, 2006**

RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago, November 1986

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RARA Historian

The November meeting this year was, as now, the ever popular RaRa Ham Auction. The auctioneers were also then, as now, the duo of Ed Gable K2MP and Dick Goslee K2VCZ. Different was the venue, however, then held at the Police and Fire Academy on Scottsville Road. I need to say, however, that Dick Goslee was listed as a *Rookie* assistant auctioneer. That would have been written by Vice-President and program chairman of the time, and full time jokester, Bud Young, WA2UGE.

The results of last month's *Home Brew Contest* night were listed. Taking top honors was Ed Gable, K2MP, for his home brew scanning, all solid state 2 mtr FM transceiver. Tom Hodge, WA2YTM, took honors for his 900 mhz converters and a fine gentleman, Morris Rosenfeld, KA2JAJ, took third place with a radio built from the ARRL Handbook. Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, writing for the AWA, reported on the just completed 25th annual AWA convention held at the Sheraton Hotel in Canandaigua, New York. The guest speaker was John Bardeen, the co-inventor of the transistor at Bell Labs. Bardeen thrilled those in attendance by displaying the first transistorized radio built by the physicists at Bell. That radio now resides in the AWA Museum.

Even today as you enter Rochester from the East on Rt 490, you are pleased to see bright flowers and a tall flag pole greeting you. Reported in this issue was the fact that the person responsible for having those installed was our own Jim O'Brien, K2UDP. With regret it was reported that Ray Smith, WA2SOR, was a Silent Key. There was a new commercial advertiser, George Krickovich, W2YJ, of Lancaster, offering 2-way radio systems. From the Want Ads you could buy a Butternut HF6V from Pat Hooke, W2DN.

RDXA Meeting Program

By Vic Gauvin, K1PY

Neat Tricks & Goodies!

Hear what neat tricks and goodies RDXA ops have developed to optimize their station layouts, and get those contacts (DX or Contest), and otherwise have more fun in front of the radio

NOVEMBER 2006, 7:30 p.m. Gander Mtn
Coming in December: Annual RDXA Holiday
Dinner One week early: Dec 12, 2006 at the S&S

Sidebands: Amateur Radio in the News

By Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY
PIO, Western Section, ARRL

FCC releases long-awaited "Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order – Ending a protracted waiting period, the FCC's Report and Order in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, was adopted October 4 and released October 10, 2006. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the proposed changes in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released back in 2004. The FCC has:

1. expanded the phone sub-bands in the 75 and 40 meter bands;
2. permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;
3. permitted the use of spread spectrum on 222-225 MHz;
4. permitted amateurs to retransmit communications from the International Space Station;
5. permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to receive their call sign in memoriam;
6. prohibited an applicant from filing more than one application for a specific vanity call sign;
7. eliminated certain restrictions on equipment manufacturers;
8. permitted Amateur Radio stations in Alaska and surrounding waters more flexibility in providing emergency communications;
9. clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";
10. deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for RACES stations; and
11. deleted the requirement for public announcement of test locations and times.

In addition, the FCC took several other miscellaneous actions:

In "re-farming" the frequencies currently authorized to Novice and Technician Plus licensees, the Commission increased the voice segments for General, Advanced and Amateur Extra licensees. On 75 meters, Generals will be able to use voice from 3800-4000 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz.

(Sidebands Continued on page 4)

Sidebands, (continued from page 3)

Advanced class licensees will be able to use voice from 3700-4000, an increase of 75 kHz, and Amateur Extras will be able to use voice from 3600 to 4000 kHz, a generous increase of 150 kHz. On 40 meters, Advanced and Extra Class licensees will be able to use voice from 7125-7300 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz. General class licensees will be able to use voice on 7175-7300 kHz, an increase of 50 kHz. On 15 meters, General class operators will have phone privileges on 21275-21450 kHz, an increase of 25 kHz.

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed the ARRL's gratitude to the FCC Commissioners in a letter dated October 11: "On behalf of the ARRL and the Commission's licensees in the Amateur Radio Service I want to express appreciation for your release yesterday of the Report and Order in WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) amending Part 97 of the Commission's Rules. The Commission's action in clearing this pending proceeding will assist the Amateur Radio Service in meeting its objectives, particularly with regard to providing emergency and public service communications."

The ARRL is requesting member input concerning the FCC's Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, released October 10. The Report and Order will not take effect until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. This publication date is not yet known.

The complete text is available for viewing as a PDF file on the FCC Web site,

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmate/h/FCC-06-149A1.pdf.

A summary is available on the ARRL Web site,

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/11/100/>

The ARRL is specifically seeking member guidance on how the changes will affect current operating activities on 80, 40 and 15 meters (see the current ARRL band plans,

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bandplan.html>, and an ARRL FAQ,

<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/WT04-140/faq.html>,

which includes a chart showing the band changes).

Comments may be submitted by e-mail to bandplan@www.arrl.org. All e-mails will be read and considered, but individual responses will not be possible due to the message volume expected. The deadline for comments is October 31.

Source: ARRL Letter

New Law Formally Makes Amateur Radio Part of Emergency Communications Community –

A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441 <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:h.r.05441>, formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. Congress approved the measure before adjourning for its pre-election break. President George W. Bush signed the bill into law October 4. Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the "21st Century Emergency Communications Act." Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC Working Group) must coordinate its activities. Included within the DHS's Office of Emergency Communications – which the measure also creates – RECC Working Groups attached to each regional DHS office will advise federal and state homeland security officials. The final version of the legislation incorporated language from both House and Senate bills and was hammered out in a conference committee. An earlier version of the 21st Century Emergency Communications Act, HR 5852, included Amateur Radio operators as members of the RECC Working Groups.

In addition to Amateur Radio operators, RECC Working Groups also will coordinate with communications equipment manufacturers and vendors – including broadband data service providers, local exchange carriers, local broadcast media, wireless carriers, satellite communications services, cable operators, hospitals, public utility services, emergency evacuation transit services, ambulance services, and representatives from other private sector entities and non-governmental organizations. The RECC Working Groups will assess the survivability, sustainability and interoperability of local emergency communication systems to meet the goals of the National Emergency Communications Report. That report would recommend how the US could "accelerate the deployment of interoperable emergency communications nationwide." They also will coordinate the establishment of "effective multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency emergency communications networks" that could be brought into play in an emergency or disaster.

In light of the new legislation, the ARRL plans to follow up to determine how it can interact with the DHS and its Office of Emergency Communications.

Source: ARRL Letter

What's Your Favorite Ham Topic?

By Peter Fournia, W2SKY
Education Chairman, RARA

What's your favorite ham radio topic? Do you like talking about it? Can you demo aspects of it or pass around related items? If you answer "yes" then the RARA instruction programs can get you an audience. It may be for only 20 minutes to one hour on one Saturday or in one evening. That's enough for you to be of help to our RARA Amateur Radio Licenses Course instructors and students.

Our instructors can use a handful of special interest helpers. It reduces our instructors burden and it enhances the learning experience of the students. That is what our ham courses are about. They are a collection of special interest topics that, together, comprise the topics on the Technician, General and Extra class license exams.

Please inform Brad Armstrong (w1yx@arrl.net) or Peter Fournia (w2sky@arrl.net) of your special interest. We can work with you to schedule your special topic into our license courses.

RaRa Hotline

(585) 442-0587

24 hours a day

November Calendar of events

- 3 - RaRa Meeting - 7:30 PM - Henrietta Fire Hall, 3129 East Henrietta Road
- 9 - RaRa Board of Directors - 8:00PM-RIT Bldg-9, Room 3119
- 10 - RVHFG - 7:30 PM, monthly meeting at Ogden Town Hall, 269 Ogden Center Rd.
- 16 - ARES - 7:00PM, monthly meeting at Red Cross, 50 Prince St., Rochester
- 17 - RRRRA - 8:00PM, monthly meeting at Pittsford Town Hall, basement meeting room.
- 18 - RaRa VE Testing session - 10:00AM Bldg-9 Room-3139 RIT Campus, Henrietta
- 21 - RDXA - 7:30 PM, monthly meeting at Gander Mountain, Jay Scutti Blvd, Henrietta

Is This Your Last Issue Of The RAG?

By George Masny, KA2GPJ
Membership Secretary, RARA

The membership period for RARA starts the first of September each year and continues through the end of August the following year. The final membership expiration each year is October 31, which includes a 2 month grace period for payment of your dues. Check the address label on your current issue of the RAG for your expiration date. If it shows OCT. 2006, your dues have not yet been received for the year 2006-2007 and this will be your last issue of the RAG. You must be a current member of RARA to participate in the auction at the November meeting so now is a good time to send in your payment.

You may pay your dues at the November Auction or any RARA meeting or send them along with your completed membership application to RARA, P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333.

73rd Hamfest, continued from page 1

Air conditioning has been improved. Overhead doors were added for faster setup and take down. We may change the flow path in the Dome Arena to enhance exhibitors exposure. And yes, we will still have an outdoor flea market.

Commercial exhibitors will be in the newly renovated Dome Center. You can help fill that building with leading companies in the amateur radio business. Call, write, email or personally visit the people you want to see. Address information is printed in your copy of QST and CQ magazines. A "boilerplate" writing campaign does not work. Each and every company needs to hear from you personally.

Start now to get your favorite exhibitor to Rochester. Budgets are now being created for 2007 at these companies. You can make certain Rochester is on their schedule.

Complete details are listed on the Rochester Hamfest web site - www.rochesterhamfest.org. Information is updated daily. Direct your questions to the chairman during regular business hours at 585-424-7184.

Rochester Hamfest
June 1-2-3, 2007

By Dick Goslee, KG2I
Editor, RaRa RAG

Calling all Rochester Area Fox Hunters

by Fred Miller, WO2P
& Judy Stonehill, N2KXS
Hunt Masters

The Xerox Amateur Radio Club (XARC) 2006 Fall Fox Hunt will be held on Saturday October 28th 2006, rain or shine, and will start promptly at 0930. The starting location will be in the parking lot of Egypt Town Park at the corner of Route 31 and Victor Rd in the town of Egypt. The post-hunt lunch and award presentations will be at MacGreggor's restaurant, located on the north side of Route 31 in Egypt, 0.6 miles west of the Egypt Town Park (across from the Hess gas station) at about 12:30pm.

Whether you are a "first-timer" or a "seasoned hunter", we encourage you to take part in this fun event. Feel free to announce this event at your club meetings and be sure to tell your friends.

Please review the rules and contact Fred Miller at WO2P@aol.com if you have any questions. Hope to see you there!

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to complete a license class.**

**3rd Saturday of each
Month, Sept. – April**

Registration – 10:00AM
Testing – 10:15AM

**Room 3139, Building 9
(Park in Lot J)**

Rochester Institute of Technology
1 Lomb Memorial Drive
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**Contact Raj Dewan, N2RD to reserve
Space. Call (585) 703-4003 or e-mail
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**Rochester Hamfest
June 1 - 2 - 3, 2007**

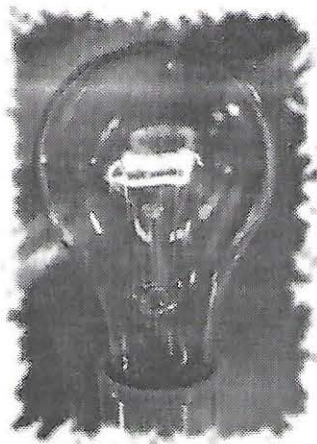
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